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of philosophy. It gives an interest in the applications of knowledge, offers a clue to the complex civilization of the present, and renders the mind hospitable to new discoveries and inventions.

"The history of science is hostile to the spirit of caste. It reveals men of all grades of intelligence and of all social ranks co-operating in the cause of human progress. It is a basis of intellectual and social homogeneity.

"Science is international,—English, Germans, French, Italians, Russians—all nations—contributing to advance the general interests. [The teaching of it] cannot fail to enhance in the breast of every young man or woman faith in human progress and good will to all mankind."

In method, this introduction takes up certain great scientific relations and applications, and treats these largely in connection with the personality of the men who have contributed their solutions. Some of the graphic chapter headings will carry the suggestion of method and of content:—1. Science and Practical Needs —Egypt and Babylonia; 2. Influence of Abstract Thought—Greece: Aristotle; 3. Scientific Theory Subordinated to Application—Rome: Vitruvius; 4. The Continunity of Science—the Medieval Church and the Arabs; 6. Scientific Method; 7. Science as measurement; 8. Cooperation in Science; 9. Science and the Struggle for Liberty; 10. Interaction of all the Sciences; 11. Science and Religion; 12. Reign of Law; 14. Scientific Prediction; 16. Science and War; 17. Science and Invention; 19. The Scientific Imagination; 20. Science and Democratic Culture.

The presentation is simple, direct, vivid, untechnical, and well suited to the intelligent reader with general interests.

An Introduction to the History of Science, by Walter Libby. Illustrated; 288 pages. Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston, 1917. Price, $1.50, postpaid.

A SHORT HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Evidently the stay and the work of M. Sarton in this country is helping create an atmosphere in which we may prophesy an extension of interest in the history of science. In this atmosphere our own American teachers, who have been doing something in this field for their students, are being encouraged to bring their work to the more general audience. All this is very much worth while and will stimulate the giving of similar courses in many of our schools and colleges, both to culture the general student and to unify the scientific consciousness of the student of science.

The book under review is by Professors Sedgwick and Tyler and embodies very largely the well known course of lectures on the subject begun by the senior author in Massachusetts Institute of Technology more than twenty-five years ago. The purpose is expressed by the authors thus,—"To furnish a broad general perspective of the evolution of science, to broaden and deepen the range of the students' interests, and to encourage the practise of discriminating scientific reading, . . . by furnishing the student and the general reader with a concise account of the origin of that scientific knowledge and that scientific method which, especially within the last century, have come to have so important a share in shaping the conditions and directing the activities of human life."

The general treatment is broadly chronological and geographic, —following the origin and rise of the wonderfully varied civilizations of the near-Mediterranean peoples and their distinctive marks upon the progress of knowledge, of its applications, and of the method and spirit which its right pursuit demands of its followers. The chapter headings indicate this phase of the treatment: Early Civilizations; Early Mathematical Science in Babylonia and Egypt; Beginnings of Science; Science in the Golden Age of Greece; Greek Science in Alexandria; Decline of Alexandrian Science; The Roman World,—The Dark Ages; Hindu and Arabian Science; Progress to 1450 A. D.; A New Astronomy and the Beginnings of Modern Natural Science; Mathematics and Mechanics in the Sixteenth Century; Natural and Physical Science in the Seventeenth Century; Beginnings of Modern Mathematical Science; Science in the Eighteenth Century; Modern Tendencies in Mathematical Science; Advances in Science in the Nineteenth Century.

Within these general headings, further analysis and presentation are based upon a combination of biography, the rise and solution of problems, and the discovery of the principles which have proved significant and fruitful. Topics like the following raise the expectations of the reader and indicate the emphasis: Primitive

Interpretations of Nature; Astrology; Primitive Counting and Geometry; Mathematics in Egypt; the Calendar and Measurements of Time; Greek Mathematics; Pythagoras; Beginnings of Rational Medicine; the Hippocrates; the Sophists; Circle Measurements; Aristotle; Euclid; Archimedes; Earth Measurements; Beginnings of Human Anatomy; Mathematics and Astronomy at Alexandria; Ptolemy; Hindu Astronomy; Arabian Contributions to Mathematics and Astronomy; Renaissance and Sciences; Alchemy; the Compass; Clocks; Textiles; Printing; the New Astronomy,—Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Kepler, Galileo; Medicine and Chemistry, Anatomy; Vesalius; Higher Algebraic Equations and Symbolic Algebra; Gregorian Calendar; Harvey and Blood Circulation; Studies of the Atmosphere, Barometer, gases; Phlogiston; Beginnings of Chemistry; Bacon and Descartes; and thus on to the great wave of mathematical and natural science discoveries of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries which cannot even be enumerated here.

The book is enlivened thruout by appropriate quotations from the men who did the work and from appreciative commentators on that work. In a series of appendices are more lengthy documents, —as, the oath of Hippocrates, Dedications by Copernicus and Harvey, Gallileo before the Inquisition, and the like. Appendix I enumerates and discusses briefly some leading inventions of the last two centuries.

The volume closes with a table of the important dates in the history of science and of civilization, a brief list of reference books, and an index. Each chapter closes with a list of references.

The book is attractively made up and printed.

A Short History of Science, by Sedgwick and Tyler. Illustrated, 474 pages. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1917. Price, $3.50.

BIOCHEMICAL CATALYSTS IN LIFE AND INDUSTRY

This volume discusses only the proteolytic enzymes, being the second volume by the author on enzymes and their uses. A preliminary chapter discusses the nature of the transformations that take place in the living cell, the inorganic catalysts, the biochemical catalysts, the theories as to their mode of operation, and a classification of proteolytic enzymes based on the number of molecules of